

LIVING RESPONSIBLY

Pastor Lary Sharp

- Our beliefs determine our behavior and our behavior determines what we become. Individualism and secularism have for the most part become the core beliefs of our society today. There are three core values prevalent today that are the antithesis (the opposite) of personal responsibility.
- *“Basically Americans are committed to nothing. If they are committed to anything it is to individual freedoms and options.”*
Robert Bella

Some Irresponsible Beliefs:

1. The Rights Mentality
2. The Victim Mentality
3. The Entitlement Mentality

Our Scripture for today:

“So be careful how you live. Don’t live like fools, but like those who are wise. Make the most of every opportunity in these evil days. Don’t act thoughtlessly, but understand what the Lord wants you to do.”

📖 Eph.5:15-17

Why Should I live Life Responsibly?

1. Because God is watching

“Nothing in all the world can hide from Him. Everything is naked and exposed before His eyes. This is the God to whom we must explain all that we have done.”

📖 Heb. 4:13

- ✦ The primary reasons we are here on earth:
 1. To get to know God through Jesus Christ.
 2. To develop character.

“Yes, each of us will have to give a personal account to God.”

📖 Rom. 14:12

2. Because others are affected

“Don’t think only of your own good. Think of other Christians and what is best for them.”

📖 Phil. 2:4

- ✦ Every decision you make affects someone else—either to help or to hurt.
- #### 3. Because God rewards responsible living.

“You will experience all these blessings if you obey the Lord your God...”

📖 Deut. 11:27

How Can I live Life More Responsibly?

1. By being a good steward

“The wise have wealth and luxury, but fools spend what ever they get.”

📖 Prov. 21:20

2. By controlling my reactions

“A fool expresses all his emotions but a wise person controls them.”

📖 Prov. 12:16

- ✦ Reacting is responding without thinking about the consequences. Acting is decisively weighing the consequences of actions and words.

3. By guarding my mind

“As a man thinks in his heart, so is he.”

📖 Prov. 23:7

4. By admitting my mistakes.

- ✦ The most difficult words for anyone to express are : “I’m sorry” and “I’m wrong”.

My resolve: To live each day in a responsible manner that is pleasing to God and profitable to others.

Next week: 100th Anniversary — Combined Worship Service at 10:00 AM



Please bring this sheet with you to your Home Team this week..

Opener

- When you’re finished with your old clothes, what do you often do with them?

Dig Deeper

⇒ Read **Colossians 3:1-17**

- ✦ Where did Paul tell the Colossians to turn their attention? (3:1)
- ✦ What was the Colossians’ security? (3:3)
- ✦ Why should believers look forward to Christ’s return? (3:4)
- ✦ What must die? (3:5)
- ✦ What evil activities does God seek to eliminate from our lives? (3:5)
- ✦ What had the Colossians taken off? (3:7-9)
- ✦ What had the Colossians put on? (3:10)
- ✦ What virtues does God seek to plant in us? (3:12, 14)
- ✦ How were the Colossian believers called to clothe themselves? (3:12-17)

Apply

- * What old, "earthly" clothing do you need to get rid of?
- * How does wearing "Christ's clothing" affect the way you live your daily life?
- * What is involved in replacing old habits with new ones?
- * Why do we need to be loving toward others?
- * Why is a thankful spirit an important part of holy living?
- * Which of God's goals for holy living do you need to apply to your life this week?

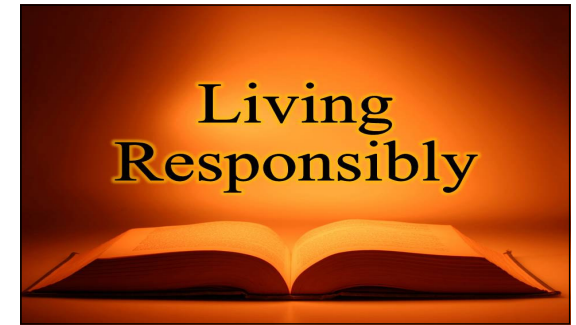
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*"The pursuit of holiness is a joint venture between God and the Christian. No one can attain any degree of holiness without God working in his life, but just as surely no one will attain it without effort on his own part. God has made it possible for us to walk in holiness. But He has given to us the responsibility of doing the walking; He does not do that for us. "*

—Jeff Bridges  
Navigators

## Praise & Prayer List



**SEACOAST**  **CHURCH**  
A COMMUNITY OF FAITH



Message Notes &  
Home Team  
Small Group Questions

**For the week of November 8, 2009**

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**This Sunday**  
**100th Anniversary: Combined**  
**Worship Service at 10:00 AM**